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(ISLE OF WIGHT)  
URBAN DISTRICT



Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health,  
and  
Sanitary Inspector,  
1946.



# ANNUAL REPORT,

## 1946.

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To the Chairman and Councillors.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Ministry of Health have again called for a brief Annual Report for the year 1946 from the Medical Officer of Health.

The year under review saw a complete change in the staff of the Department. The untimely death of Dr. Carpenter in May caused a vacancy which was not filled until I assumed the appointment in November. The Public Health statistics cover the whole year. Mr. H. K. Bridgman was incapacitated by illness during the early part of the year and resigned his post, to be succeeded by Mr. R. B. Girling, M.S.I.A., M.R. San. I. in July. The statistics of the Sanitary Inspector's Report in consequence cover only the final six months of the year.

Vital statistics for the Urban District continue to represent a reasonably satisfactory picture. The death rate has fallen by 2.1 per thousand, but the birth rate has fallen by 3.9 per thousand, and is now considerably below that for England and Wales. Infantile mortality has dropped appreciably and maternal mortality is nil. A rather sharp outbreak of measles, and to a lesser degree of whooping cough, caused a large increase in the number of notifications of infectious disease, but fortunately the mortality was nil. These two prevalent diseases can, however, give rise to much ill-health in later life which it should be possible to prevent.

There has been an appreciable increase in the total estimated population, and this has resulted in an aggravation of the already acute housing shortage. There are many cases of gross overcrowding constantly being brought to the attention of the Health Department, which it is possible to do little or nothing to alleviate, though the amount of domestic difficulty and unhappiness, in addition to actual ill-health which results, cannot be computed.

Finally, I would wish to call attention to the low percentage of children below school age who have been immunised against diphtheria, and to urge that the existing facilities for prevention of this disease be utilised to achieve protection for all children who have reached the age of one.

I have the honour to be Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. CALVEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



# STATISTICS

## (1) General.

Area of Urban District (in acres)	...	...	...	3,509
Population	...	...	...	12,020
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946) according				
to rate book	...	...	...	4,038
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£134,990
Sum Represented by 1d. rate	...	...	...	£503

## (2) Vital.

### Live Births

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated				
resident population	...	...	...	16.9
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of England and Wales				19.1

### Still Births

Rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	14.6
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### Deaths

	M.	F.	Total
	74	77	151
Crude death rate per 1,000			
Estimated resident population	...	...	12.6
Death rate England and Wales	...	...	11.5
Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	—

Death of Infants under 1 year of age	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...
	2	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...
	1	1	2
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births	...		34.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			27.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live			
births	...	...	105.3
Death from measles	...	...	—
Death from whooping cough	...	...	—
Deaths from Cancer	...	...	22

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

There is no change to report. Details are available on reference to 1938 records.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES (Excluding non-Civilians).

Disease	Admitted		
	Total Cases Notified	to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	10	9	—
Diphtheria ... ..	2	2	—
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..	3	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	2	—	1
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	94	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	34	2	—
Total	145	14	1

### AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningitis	Whooping Cough
Under 1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	5
2 " " 3	1	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	6
3 " " 4	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	5
4 " " 5	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	3
5 " " 10	7	—	—	—	—	61	—	—	12
10 " " 15	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
15 " " 20	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
20 " " 35	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " " 45	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
45 " " 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	2	3	2	—	94	—	—	34

### DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS

Percentage of child population considered to have been immunised at 31.12.46:—

Under 5 years of age — 50%.

Age 5 to 15 years — 75.3%.

# TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES

# DEATHS

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
Age Periods		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1 — 5	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 15	...	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	...	2	2	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	1
35 — 45	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	...	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Totals		6	8	1	2	17*	—	1	—	—	1

\*This total includes 2 old cases left Island and returned, and 5 transfers from the mainland.

## Non-notifiable infectious diseases (Schools return):—

Chicken pox	...	...	8	German Measles	...	1
Scabies	...	...	—	Influenza	...	—
Mumps	...	...	92	Ringworm	...	6
Impetigo	...	...	1	Jaundice	...	9

# Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

## 1. WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of Shanklin is derived from the Chillerton wells and the catchment areas at Wroxall, Oxlease and Cowlease. Part of the Rural District derives its supply from Shanklin sources.

Sandown draws its supply from the Yar, and from Dyer's springs at Newchurch. Arrangements were completed to augment Ryde's water supply from this source. At no time during the year was there any deficiency of quantity.

Bacteriological examination repeatedly gave satisfactory results from the point of view of quality.

**General Sanitation**

Nature of Inspection				Number of Visits
(a) Water Supply	...	...	...	2
Drainage	...	...	...	145
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	5
Tents, Vans, and Sheds	...	...	...	4
Factories	...	...	...	5
Bakehouses	...	...	...	2
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	2
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	3
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	2
Rodent Control	...	...	...	4
Shops	...	...	...	76
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	56

**(b) Housing**

Number of Houses inspected				
under the Public Health Acts	..	...	...	106
Revisits	...	...	...	163
Overcrowding	...	..	...	2
Verminous Premises	...	..	..	10
Revisits to above	...	.	...	8

**(c) Infectious Diseases**

Inquiries	...	...	...	8
Disinfection	..	...	...	2
Miscellaneous I.D. visits		...	...	2



## Visits to

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	4
Butchers	...	...	...	...	43
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	16
Grocers	...	...	...	...	26
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	4
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	4
Dairies	...	...	...	...	5
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	4
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	2
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	20

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Total Visits and Inspections	...	...	...	735
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	52
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	2
Notices complied with	...	...	...	20

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During the year the following quantities of foodstuff was found to be unsound and condemned:—

Bacon	52 lbs.	Dried Fruit	69 lbs.	Sugar	30 lbs.
Butter	336 lbs.	Fish	2,001 lbs.	Tinned Goods	334
Cereals	417 lbs.	Margarine	413 lbs.		
Cheese	104 lbs.	Meat	770 lbs.		

Total weight of unsound food — 4,526 lbs.



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